**MEETING MINUTES**

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|  | **Meeting:** | General Representative Council Meeting |  |  |  |  |
|  | **Date of Meeting:** | 12th Jan 2021 | **Time:** |  |  12:00 PM to 01:00 PM |
|  | **Minutes Prepared By:** | GSA Secretary- Naga Venkat Palaparthy | **Location:** |  |  Individual home via Google Meet. |
|  | **1. Meeting Objective** |  |  |  |  |  |

General Representative Council Meeting

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| **2. Attendees** |

Executive Council Members: Sandeep Bonagiri (President), Naga Venkata Palaparthy (VP Academic Affairs and External Relations), Deepthi Gudapati (VP Student Life), Bhargava Sai Nakkina (VP Finance).

Representative Council Members: Abhilash Reddy Nallarala, Isha Pathak, Manroop kaur, Satinderpaul Singh, Jemima Ibanga.

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| 3. Agenda and Notes, Decisions, Issues |
| Topic | **Discussion** |
| Other Issues   | * Sandeep started the session by greeting everyone and asked Bhargava to present the budget for winter 2021 .
* Bhargav presented the GSA winter 2021 budget to all the members by highlighting the following elements
* GSA opening budget- 45,000 CAD
* Expected GSA Activity fee- 25,000 CAD
* Expected student support fund -4,500 CAD
* Total Budget after adding everything -74,500
* He added that all the GSA members decided not to increase their salaries for the current term.
* Bhargava further informed all the members about the GSA expenses:
* Expected Cheque distribution charges for CRA and Account bookkeeper purposes: 2,500 CAD
* Budget allocation for GSA Elections 2021: Maximum of 1,000 CAD
* Budget for Student events- 7,000 CAD
* Expected expense for farewell (with GRC members and management): 500 CAD
* For new year Auditing and Accounting purpose: 900 CAD
* For filing IT returns and Taxes: 500 CAD
* For winter 2021 GSA Bursary and Scholarships:
* He added that GSA has already paid ab-Gpac membership fee, so won’t pay anything for this term.
* Bhargava told that the GSA expenses to be 31,640 CAD leaving a surplus of amount of 42,860 CAD.
* Bhargava asked all the council members for having any questions or concerns in regard to the presented budget.
* Manroop asked all the council members about GSA contributing more amount towards scholarships as a donation since GSA has more surplus amount.
* Bhargava replied saying that the surplus amount will be used by future council to plan future events since due to current circumstances there is no scope of planning offline events.
* Satinder said that he had similar suggestion like giving some coupons to all the graduate students since there isn’t any events planned due to covid.
* Deepthi replied saying that the Christmas event was planned at a restaurant and even food testing has been but the event was cancelled due to latest AHS restrictions.
* She told that GSA as an alternative planned for providing uber coupons, but GSA had issues while releasing the funds from the account due to joint authority on the bank account.
* Deepthi said that GSA is currently working on it and will have something coming up by the end of this month.
* Satinder told all the council members that students have concerns for paying GSA fee each term and not having events or anything, he added that most of the graduate students will be graduating this term.
* Sandeep said GSA has successfully conducted two meet and greet and one horror night event but only Christmas event was canceled due to new rules.
* Deepthi added that GSA is conducting a traditional day contest from 14th to 16th Jan where students can upload their traditional photos via social media with hashtag #cuegsatradition.
* Satinder asked about any update regarding a student concern of charging extra lab fee for financial account course.
* Naga Venkat replied saying that it was already discussed with the management and the dean of graduate studies, GSA is waiting for the update regarding the same.
* Deepthi raised point about the upcoming GSA election with all the GRC members and asked them to give any kind of suggestions for conducting the whole process online.
* Satinder told everyone about having a separate page particularly for GSA elections where nominated people can have opportunity to speak and interact with all the graduate students.
* He added that using a media platform like YouTube broadcasting for giving speeches and having debates will be a good option since there won’t be any distractions from the audience.
* Deepthi said that one of the main challenges about conducting the elections online is having people come to the discussion orientated sessions like debate and having them participate actively.
* Manroop suggested that instead of having a personal debate session like before its better to have a general debate among the contestants.
* Naga Venkat thanked all the GRC members for their suggestions and added that GSA is open for any kind of suggestions going further.
* He further talked about the ERO and DRO positions which GSA has rolled out and asked all the GRC members to encourage students whoever interested to apply since the deadline to apply is 17th Jan.
* Naga Venkat talked about the position called *Judicial Bord Representative* who is responsible in dealing disputes during the GSA elections.
* He added that the Judicial representative should be elected only from the current GRC members as per bylaws and said that GSA executives are not eligible to apply for that position.
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